Dt:8/19/2014

Fall 2014

ENGLISH 200:001: SEMINAR IN LITERATURE AND LITERARY ANALYSIS

T/TH 1:00-2:15, Rayzor Hall 305

Instructor: Betty Joseph

Office & Office Hours: 319 Herring/2:30-3:30p T/TH and by appnt.

Phone & E-mail: extn 2774 / beejay@rice.edu

INTRODUCTION:

This course will focus on close readings and critical responses to literary texts and narratives. The course serves as the introduction to the English major at Rice. We will study a range of genres including poetry, fiction, drama, film and critical theory, across various historical and geographical contexts. While our central aim is to analyze the formal principles of literary productions, the course will also introduce students to the use of literary criticism in the interpretation of literature. Students will prepare for the forms of writing required of them in upper-level English classes such as the academic or critical essay.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Develop Close Reading, Critical Thinking, and Analytic Skills

Build Contextual Knowledge

Practice and Develop Critical Writing

Engage in Workshopping or Peer Editing Experiences

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

Tennessee Williams, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

Charles Johnson, *Oxherding Tale*

Mohsin Hamid, *How To Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia*

Virginia Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway*

Shorter texts including poetry and critical essays will be available on OWLSPACE

EVALUATION:

4 papers: 80%; In-Class writing: 10%; Participation 10%

Overview of Papers: P 1 on poetry; P 2 on Williams or Shelley; P 3 Woolf/Modernism/Form; P 4 Oxherding Tale or Reluctant Fundamentalist plus one critical essay.

SCHEDULE

T 26 Introduction
TH 28 POETRY: WORDS; Discussion of William Blake, "Little Lamb"

September
T 2 POETRY: SOUNDS. Read chapter "Basic Rhythms," in *Meter and Meaning* by Attridge (PDF).
TH 4 POETRY: FORM (The Sonnet). Read handout with poems and BRING WITH YOU TO CLASS FOR IN-CLASS WRITING

T 9 POETRY: FIGURES OF SPEECH: PARATAXIS: Perelman, "China"(PDF) Kincaid, *Lucy*; Hemingway, "In Another Country" (PDF)
TH 11 POETRY: DISCOURSE ANALYSIS (Binary Oppositions); Read Belsey, "Creatures of Difference"(PDF)

T 16 WILLIAMS, CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF (ACT 1)
TH 18 WILLIAMS, CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF (ACT 2) **PAPER 1 DUE; Schedule Writing Conferences**

T 23 WILLIAMS, CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF (ACT 3); **WRITING CONFERENCES**
TH 25 WILLIAMS, CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF; **WRITING CONFERENCES**

T 30 SHELLEY, FRANKENSTEIN (p 1-100)
TH 2 SHELLEY, FRANKENSTEIN (p100-200); **REWRITES OF PAPER 1 DUE**

October
T 7 SHELLEY, FRANKENSTEIN (200-end)
TH 9 SHELLEY, FRANKENSTEIN

T 14 **MIDTERM BREAK-NO CLASS**
TH 16 MRS DALLOWAY. **PAPER 2 DUE**

T 21 WOOLF, MRS DALLOWAY/ **PEER CONFERENCES IN CLASS FOR P 2**
TH 23 WOOLF, MRS DALLOWAY
FRIDAY: REVISED PAPER 2 DUE (5:00PM)

T 28 WOOLF, MRS DALLOWAY;
TH 30 WOOLF, MRS DALLOWAY

November
T 4 JOHNSON, OXHERDING TALE
TH 6 JOHNSON, OXHERDING TALE; **PAPER 3 DUE**

T 11 JOHNSON, OXHERDING TALE **; IN-CLASS CONFERENCES On P. 3**
TH 13 JOHNSON, OXHERDING TALE;
FRIDAY: REVISED PAPER 3 DUE (5:00 PM)

T 18 MOHSIN HAMID, HOW TO GET FILTHY RICH
Th 20 MOHSIN HAMID, HOW TO GET FILTHY RICH; Read Benveniste, "Subjectivity in Language" PDF
T 25 MOHSIN HAMID, HOW TO GET FILTHY RICH (Comparisons; excerpts from Albert Camus, The Fall)
TH 27 THANKSGIVING BREAK

December
T 2 PRESENTATIONS OF PAPER 4 [**COMPARATIVE PAPER]**
TH 4 DRAFTS DUE & EDITING CONFERENCES IN CLASS;

PAPER 4 DUE on FRIDAY BY 5:00 PM

Class policies:

1. All written assignments are governed by the honor system. Students must follow paper guidelines carefully and cite all work (including web materials) they have consulted. All direct and indirect quotations from other sources should be properly acknowledged. Student's must submit their written work in either one of these documentation styles: the MLA or Chicago. Please consult resources at the PWC if you need help with writing style and documentation.

2. Please keep hard copies of all electronically submitted work. All reading responses are due IN CLASS (as hard copies) on the dates indicated on the syllabus—late responses will not be graded. These can be e-mailed only with permission from the instructor.

3. No student will be given an extension of time on an assignment or an opportunity to improve a grade that is not available to all members of the class. Late papers are normally marked down.

4. Attendance and completion of all assignments are mandatory. More than two absences for any reason will result in forfeiture of your class participation grade.

5. Students must read material assigned for the day and come to class prepared to participate in discussion of the material.

Statement on Disability:

Any student with a disability requiring accommodations in this course is encouraged to contact me after class or during office hours. Additionally, students will need to contact Disability Support Services in the Ley Student Center.